

5/24/64

Dear Orest,

As you know, I look for things that are in your interest for you to have. This time, instead of using a copy, I am typing it for you because I am running out of the special paper my machine requires and I simply haven't the \$35.00 a new supply costs.

There is another item in a supply of documents I have just obtained. Together with this, it indicates pretty clearly that you were the object of special attention. I hope you can find it possible to communicate to me why, if there is anything you know besides what you have told me.

When I can afford to get another supply of paper, or when I run out entirely and go further into debt, I will make exact copies and send them to you. To this moment, you have an exact copy of every paper I have found on you. There will, I am certain, be more. The question will be of finding them, which takes much time in such an enormous set of files.

One is headed "Schedule of Witnesses -New Orleans - July 21, 1964" There are seven listings plus the time of departure of the lawyer's plane for Dallas. I give those that will interest you:

8:30 A.M. FBI office ~~for~~ latest developments on Pena (need I say that this was not part of a "schedule of witnesses"? There were checking on you until the very last minute, for the very next item, the first witness, is)

9:30 A.M. Orest Pena
Habana Bar, 117 Decatur

11:00 A.M. Ruperto Pena

1: P.M. Evaristo Rodriguez, 1239 Vhartres Street

3:45 PM Carlos Bringuier (out of town).

Taken by itself, I think this means the FBI was enggged in checking on you pretty carefully to the last minute before Liebeler questioned you. And, close as the FBI office was, this means he gave himself plenty of time to listen.

The other is two sheets of paper headed with your name and various breakdowns, of which I'll give you a summary and where more important, the exact words.

After 1) is Background, and under this Bringuier, Rodriguez and Ruperto.

3) Produce papers (whatever this means). 4) Review travel (you remember what they were trying to pin on you. I think Garrison believed it until long after I started to try and tell him better. Under this there are 5 breakdowns, includinging your schedule, part from Tamberella.

5) Review previous contacts with FBI

a. 12/5/63

b. 6/3/64 - declined to be interviewed without attorney present.

c. 6/5/64 Agents said they were willing to interview him in presence of his attorney. Pena said send a letter setting forth ~~the~~ date time and place of interview. (Orest, I have seen no ~~such~~ such reports as these, and they were made, not have I seen such a letter, which means one of two things: the FBI did not give them to the Com ission, or my friends and I have not been able to find them. Because there is supposed to be a special file on each person named and none of this is in the one on you, which has practically nothing in it, I do not think it is our fault. We have found much more than theynadmmit having.)

d. 6/9/64 - Went to New Orleans FBI office and was interviewed.

e. 6/16/64- FBI called Tamberella and set up re-interview at Pena's convenience.

f. 6/17/64 - FBI called Tamberella at home about re-interview. (Strange, HW)

g. 6/18/64 - Tambralla said no inconsistency between two statements, i.e.

- (1) 12/5/63 - Oswald was in his bar, and
- (2) 6/9/64 - He never told anyone including Carlos Bringuier that he saw Oswald in the bar, because the 6/9/63 statement refers only to "lay people" and would not include the FBI

I skip. Under 9, did you ever tell anyone that you had ever seen Oswald, anywhere.

Here is a very interesting one I wish you would explain. There has to be some reason for that Liebeler to have left if out in questioning you. And, there is a mark right above it:

13. What about the doctors visit with Rodriguez when they saw Bringuier talking to ~~the policeman~~ the policeman and the white man getting into the other police car.

I understand part of it now. It means when you were taking Evvie to the doctor. But what is that business about "the white man"?

14) What about the Garcia incident - who were the merchant seamen-develop.

As we both know, these were not your only contacts with the FBI. There has to be some reason they were hiding them from the Commission. Have you any ideas along this line?

Orest, I am as busy as I am broke. I started work this morning about the time you go to bed, and I'm getting too old for it.

I just can't possibly get down there now. You know if I didn't have the money to get to New York when you were there, I can't get to N.O. I am somewhat concerned by this. It shows too much interest in you. It can be for a number of reasons. Two are that you know things and they know a meaning these things can have that you do not; and that they know you do understand. If you do not feel otherwise, I think it would be a good idea for you to do what you once said you would. Remember, you went to M&B when they had a special on tape recorders and got one so you could communicate with me that way? I think it would be a good idea if you would do this, when you are all alone. Package the cassettes well if you do, mark them on the outside "Tapes-Handle With Care" so they will not be put near anything electronic, and send them to me. This, of course, is up to you. I would especially like this for another reason, not only your protection. It is possible that I will soon be writing about what I learned in New Orleans in a special, limited way and ~~and~~ the help you have already given me will be important.

Best regards,